Alton CC Clinic Questions
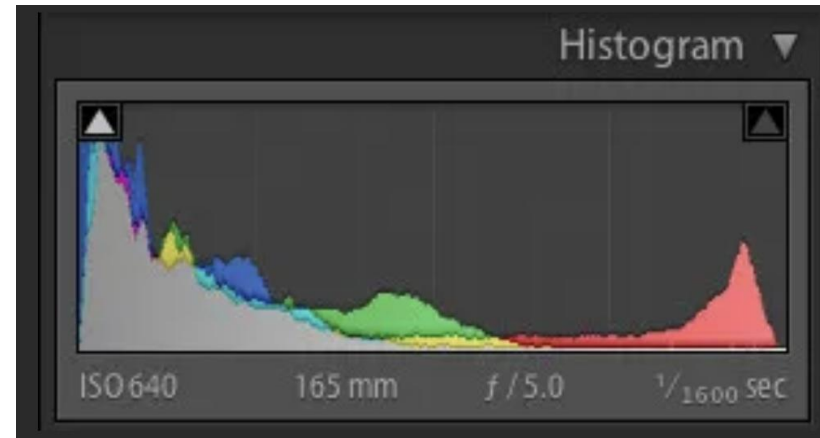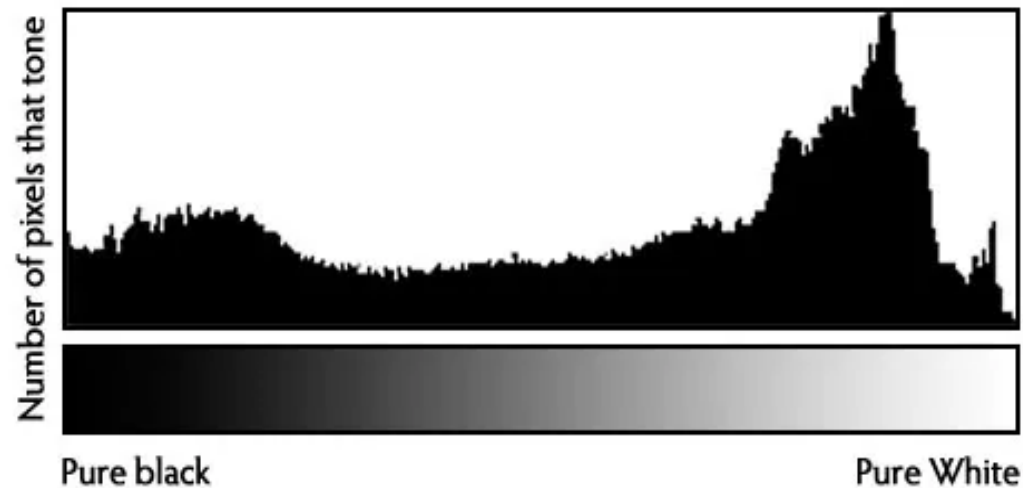
1. **ISO**: Pros and cons of letting ISO run high (Patrick) - **Kelvin**

2. **Creative**: ICM and multiple Exposures (Patrick) - **Lynne**

3. **Editing**: How to edit specific areas in Lightroom / other software (Ann); Adamski effect - what is it and how to do it? - **Lynne**

4. **Exposure**: how best to deal with strong low sunlight with its deep shadows and bright highlights (Patrick); Should I worry that my sky is overexposed when subject is correctly exposed? What are the options for having sky and subject correctly exposed? (Anne) – **Wendy**

5. **Buying used cameras** – budget £300 (Ian P): what features are useful, eg bracketing exposures etc.? DSLR--> mirrorless?; Used dealers? – **Wendy**

6. **Printing**: why do some PDIs look so different from the print? (exporting PDIs and mounting prints) – **Wendy**
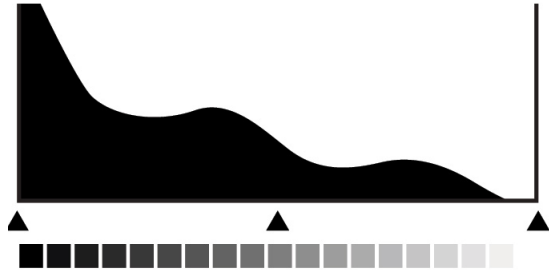
Exposure

- Patrick: how best to deal with strong, low sunlight, with its deep shadows and bright highlights?

- Anne: Sometimes my sky is overexposed when the subject is correctly exposed. Should I worry about that and if I should what are my options for having both Subject and sky correctly exposed?
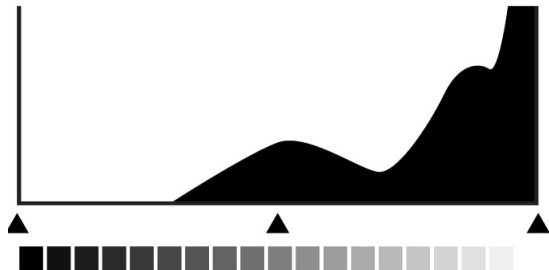
Histogram

- A graph that represents the tones in an image: highlights, shadows, and everything in between.

- If you can read a histogram, you can quickly & accurately check the exposure of your image

- Look at the ends – *but histogram clipping is NOT always bad!*

Histogram Examples

Increase exposure: Drop shutter speed, bigger aperture (smaller f no) or increase ISO

Decrease exposure: Increase shutter speed or smaller aperture (bigger f no) or reduce ISO

"Good" exposure

Options for Shooting in Strong (Low) Sunlight

- Embrace the contrast
  - ➢Fan Ho
  - ➢Silhouettes
  - ➢Rim highlights
- Shoot into the sun and correct the exposure

Embrace the light:
Fan Ho

Afternoon Chat, Hong Kong, 1959 © Fan Ho, Courtesy Blue Lotus Gallery

Approaching Shadow, Hong Kong, 1954 © Fan Ho, Courtesy Blue Lotus Gallery

Hong Kong Venice, 1962 © Fan Ho, Courtesy Blue Lotus Gallery

Silhouettes

- Expose for light source! Spot metering; 1-3 stops under

- Set 1SO to low (100-200);

- High aperture (eg f8 - f11) to maximize depth and reduce chromatic aberration

- Shutter speed at least 1/250s for crisp silhouettes

Silhouette Photos

Passageways make excellent framing devices, and the light entering them can highlight architectural details. Image by Erwin Vindl

Pictures should tell a story, so I try to give my subjects some sort of context. Image by Erwin Vindl
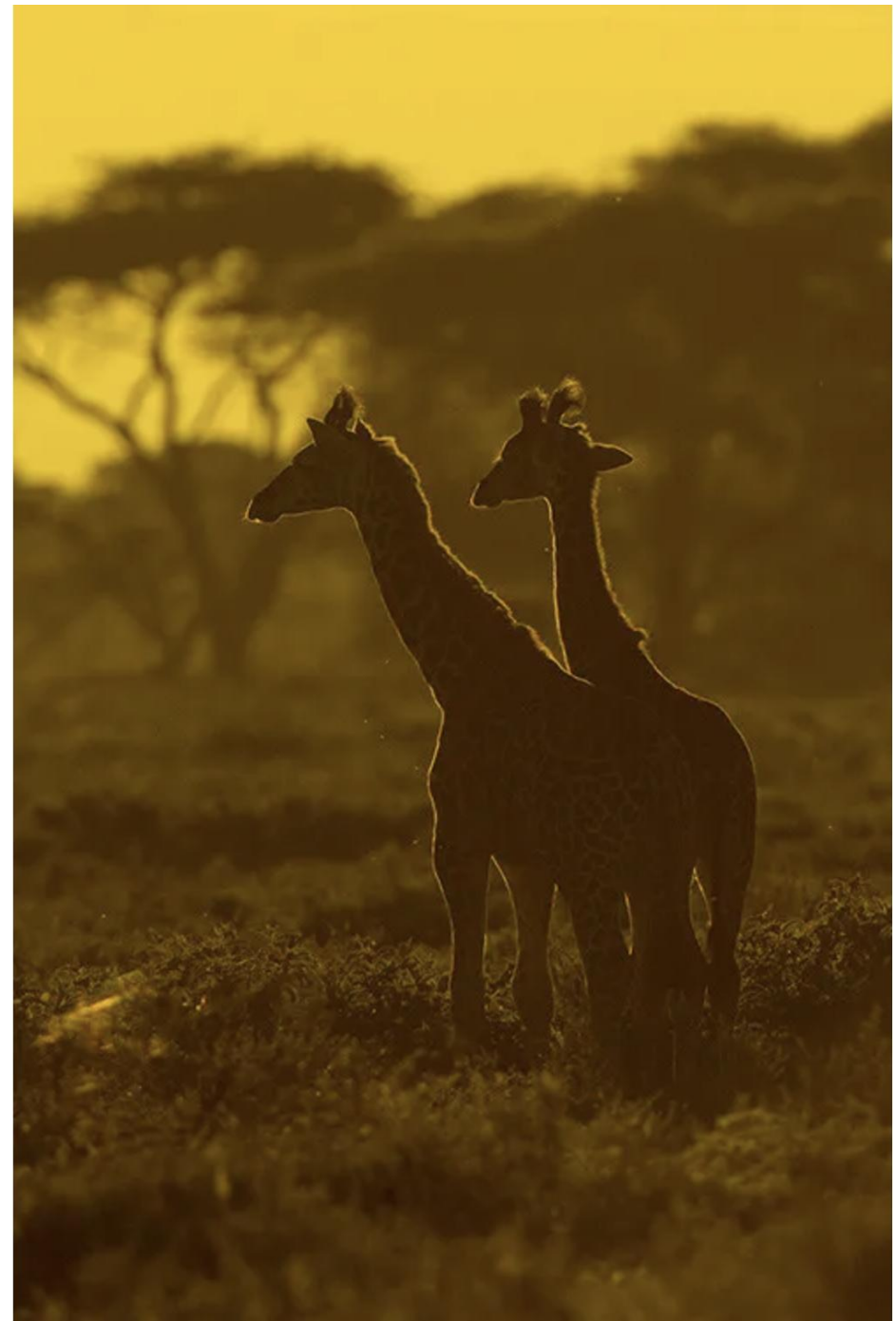
Rim Lighting

Light behind subject; creates glow to image adding depth and drama

The sun created perfect rim lighting in this baboon portrait, bringing out the texture of its fur. Image by Laurent Baheux

Shooting into the sun

- Bracketing – for an evenly balanced exposure. To expose for the sky properly, quite often the foreground will be thrown into complete darkness. 5 shot bracketing at 1 stop increments gives you 2 stops of light covered either side of your correct exposure.
- Graduated filter
- 2 shots: 1 shot exposed for sky and then one for the foreground (with sky blocked out) and blend in PS
- Flash: Expose for sky and use "fill in" flash (Portraits)

Used Cameras

- I am looking to buy a second-hand camera for around £300. What features do people find most useful (e.g., bracketing exposures)? *All*

- Are mirrorless now at the price point (second hand) where it would be sensible to jump across from DSLR?

- Any recommendations for dealers, other than LCE?

Pros and cons of Mirrorless	Pros and cons of DSLRs
Electronic viewfinder: real time exposure preview	Mirror & optical viewfinder –direct natural view, great in good light
Shorter battery life	Excellent battery life
Smaller, lighter bodies	Larger, heavier bodies but robust build
Fewer lenses for some systems	Established lens systems and vast used sales market
Faster and better auto focus and tracking (entire sensor)	Slower and less auto focus points (15% of frame, D750)
Better Video	Worse for video
Faster Bursts	Slower bursts
Silent shooting	No silent shooting; Mirror slap
IBIS as standard	Most rely on IBIS in lenses only (incl canon & Nikon)
Better in low light	Not as good in low light
Expensive but future proof	Value – great IQ

Used Camera equipment Dealers

- MPB:
  - ➤DSLRs: Nikon D5200 £129-£204 / Nikon D750 £399 / Canon 7D Mark II £264-£354
  - ➤Mirrorless: Fuji X-E1 £250 / Olympus OMD EM5 Mark II £304
- Mifsuds:
  - ➤DSLRs: Nikon D7100 £349 / Canon 7D £299
  - ➤Mirrorless: Olympus OMD E-M10 Mk III £379 / Panasonic Lumix GX7 £199
- Park Cameras
- Wex
- LCE
- Grays of Westminster (Nikon only)
- eBay

In print comps, why do some PDIs look so different from the print?

- Use the correct image file!

- Images will look different on different papers e.g., fine art, rag or cotton papers

- Exporting the PDI from photo editing software: Lightroom / Ps/ Affinity:
  - ➢ Crop PDI image to the format that you'd like the print to be e.g., A4, 3x2 (12"x8"); 4x3 (12"x9"), 1x1 (10"x10", 12"x12")
  - ➢ Many images will need increased exposure for printing (0.25-0.5 stop or so)
  - ➢ Use "soft proofing" system or reduce brightness of screen (to half with Mac)
  - ➢ Add a border before exporting image from software (but maintain the format of the print) or add a border when uploading files to printing company website
  - ➢ If you don't want to add a border, print more of the image (if it's cropped) so that important content is not lost or cramped near the edge of the mount

- Mounting the print: use the correct window or cut your own!